

Cops still clueless on priest's killing

ON THURSDAY morning, it was a brutal attack on the evening of the same day it was a priest.

The Central Police District Office yesterday reported that a Roman Catholic priest was found stabbed to death in his house in Quezon City last Thursday evening.

CHU investigators said Fr. Albert Tang had, 50, a parish priest in Iloilo, Manila.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

- WHAT'S INSIDE**
- Shell, Calbas raises cooking gas prices **NEWS/A3**
 - Senators revive Jose Pidal probe **NEWS/A3**
 - Peace continues recovery **BUSINESS/B3**
- www.inquirer.com

GMA asks energy board to reconsider power rate hike

By Juliet Laking-Jaramilla and Christine O. Aranda

FACED with a growing perception that the rate increase granted in Manila Electric Co. was part of a political deal, President Maanagel's administration yesterday asked the Energy Regulatory Commission to "reconsider" its order allowing the coun-

try's biggest power distributor to raise starting next month its rate by 12 cents per kilowatt hour.

The ERC is headed by her appointee and former power undersecretary, Manuel Sanchez.

Maanagel bristled at allegations that the power rate increase was a concession to the tugboat, owners of Man-

ila and ABS-CBN, to allow their popular talent, Sen. Noli de Castro, to be her ruling mate in the May presidential election.

"We have never asked these sensitive rate-determination processes with politics and we are asking the ERC to look at the public in complete transparency in explaining to the last detail how it came about with

inclusion, so that this will not be used by any quarters to whip up unreasonable ill-will or spread rumors of political deals and favoritism."

Administration officials rebuffed Alonzo, spokesperson of the ruling team. Christian Mabilin, Duterte, and Michael Defensor, the President's political spokesperson, acknowledge that De Castro

was being wooed by the administration because of the high ratings in surveys.

Alonzo said the President's advisers should "take him across" the presidency and defend the plan to reward De Castro for his winning vote.

Maanagel's spokesperson typically always denounced those trying to link the

FPJ, Noli neck and neck



ALL THE H265 stands for the political opposition with signed a co-statement of readiness to support the may 2010 elections. (Source) Pwera ng mga politiko, naka- "big" naman (but then only, Sen. Eugene Esgara, LDP president and PDP-Laban's Sen. Arroyo).

SWS latest poll shows Roco 3rd, GMA 4th

By Don Z. Poo-Bugay and Gil Calacagan Jr.

ACTION star Fernando Poe Jr. made a "phenomenal" leap from fourth place in the Social Weather Stations' survey in September to first place in the latest SWS survey in November.

He did with previous September SWS poll of Castro in the nationwide survey conducted on Nov. 8-24, when the actor had yet to announce his candidacy. The survey, commissioned by the ruling team, indicated, limited the field to just five.

At a press briefing, SWS president Ma. Margaret said Poe and De Castro were statistically tied at first place because they were tied at a margin of error of plus or minus three percentage points.

In the presidential race, De Castro retained the lead, but second place Benigno Aquino III moved up the gap.

FIRST CHOICE FOR



"Speculation here."

"None of people are looking at the movie. Maybe some started to like but he's going to run. Maybe people got excited. There are all the couples. I'm just telling you what happened," he said.

He declined on Nov. 25 that he was running.

Asked what the results said about the actor's chances, Maanagel said: "It says he can do it. What more can you read out of these numbers?"

Maanagel said Nov. 25 that he believed some of the supporters of De Castro, Sen. Esgara, Roman and Vice President Defensor Calacagan. It may have changed that mind when it became apparent that Poe

2 opposition standard-bearers seen

By Christine O. Aranda and Michael Lim-Utic

THREE opposition parties have emerged for the 2010 elections, but the traditional lobbying suggests that the so-called united opposition could end up with two standard-bearers.

Ignoring threats of expulsion from the party nation, Sen. Eduardo Legaspi, president of the National Congress, yesterday

pledged his faction to supporting the merger of the LDP, PDP-Laban and Joseph Estrada's Pwersa ng Masang Pilipino at the Manila round yesterday morning. The new alliance is called the Coalition ng Nagkakaisang Pilipino.

Apparently in protest, the other faction of the LDP led by Manuel Rop. Aquino, party secretary general, prepared to nominate Sen. Noli de Castro today as LDP standard-bearer at a ceremony

to be held at the Clark Philippine Convention Center.

Lacson told reporters at a press conference in the Senate that he and his LDP supporters were not bawling away from the party. He said the proclamation was just a "maneuver" of the party, but quickly added that by "the party" he meant an "Aquino-led LDP."

He also described the three-party merger as "absolutely a coalition made for

Erap-FPJ comparison unfair—Tito

REJECTING another snide snare for president after Joseph Estrada need not be a disaster, Vice President Teodoro "Tito" Calacagan Jr. said yesterday.

At a forum organized by the Foreign Correspondents' Association of the Philippines at the Manila hotel in Manila City, Calacagan initially balked at

commenting on a possible presidency for Fernando Poe Jr., also known as "The King of Philippine movies. I don't want to think about it," he said.

But when asked if a Poe presidency would be a disaster for the country, Calacagan said: "No, not necessarily."

Calacagan also said that he had every

right to run for president, and that comparing him to the disgraced leader was unfair.

From Estrada, who was ousted in 2001 and who is now standing trial for plunder, had "the potential" to become a good leader, Calacagan said.

Lawmen bag No. 5 in list of kidnap gang leaders

By Christine Y. Siguan

ANOTHER one down. Eight more to go.

Police on Tuesday captured veteran Caviteño, who was based on the ERD most wanted kidnappers in the country by the National Anti-Kidnapping Task Force (NATF), in Manila province.

Caviteño's arrest brought to eight the remaining leaders in the Top 10 list of kidnap gangs being hunted by the task force. The most wanted in the order of battle, Dr. Roberto Charles Tio, was killed during an encounter with lawmen in 2007.

On Monday, former Duterte Security Council chief, retired police

leader of the most wanted kidnap gang leaders in the country and offered a bounty ranging from P500,000 to P1 million for information leading to their capture.

President Maanagel's agency yesterday moved to stop the hunt of kidnapers, a day after armed kidnapers snatched a 3-year-old boy on his way to a Manila school where it was the final high-profile abduction in two weeks and drew odds from the Chinese community for help from overseas.

"There is no need for foreign assistance because we are not dealing with transnational organizations," the President said in a statement. "We shall stop our kidnapping and I seek the people's continuing



NO SNOW IN PHIL, SO, NO SLUSHY Santa Claus will sit in place from Pwera to Manila, his papers checked by immigration officer Fernando Tumbales. But he's not a real one but for children at the 3rd worst Bazaar Festival starting today (20) the 1-400 at the Pwera Trade Center.

NAKAKALITO? SINO SA TALAGA?

Who's speaking for whom, what

By Juliet Laking-Jaramilla

Will the end presidential spokespersons please speak up?

Michael Defensor is President Maanagel's spokesperson; Christian Mabilin is the ruling party's spokesperson; together, Alonzo and Defensor

Meralco has to wait in line for tax refund-BIR

By Dennis S. Sison

UNLESS Meralco, the Bureau of Internal Revenue is to hurry to please the Lapu-Lapu power plant owner, Meralco's bid to get a refund of its tax credit is still in the air.

BIR Commissioner Guillermo Francisco A. yesterday said that Meralco would have to wait in line if it wanted the government to refund its income tax payments estimated at P9 billion.

"We could not refund imme-

diately if they want a refund, we have to verify first if they have a loan for their claims. We have to make sure that the claims are valid," he said.

Francisco said that Meralco's bid for a refund of its tax credit is still in the air. "We have to wait in line for a refund," he said. "We have to wait in line for a refund," he said.

Meralco is the country's largest electricity producer with more than 10 million customers in Metro Manila and nearby provinces.

In a disclosure in the Philippine Daily Inquirer, the utility said that it filed for its tax refund with the BIR on Dec. 27.

Meralco is claiming a tax credit of P9 billion for the 1999-2000 period, which it said was ordered by the Supreme Court to refund its

charges from February 1999 to April 30, 2000.

According to Francisco, Meralco would instead file for its tax credit with the BIR to get a refund of its tax credit.

The BIR commissioner said that while Meralco may be entitled to a tax refund, it must wait in line for a refund of its tax credit.

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The BIR, he said, would not refund Meralco's bid for a refund of its tax credit.

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Senators revive Jose Pidal probe

By Michael Lim-Ulat

THE SENATE yesterday officially revived the inquiry into the controversial Jose Pidal account after a resolution signed by 12 senators was unanimously adopted by the plenary.

Senate President Franklin Drilon, backed by Sen. Sergio Osmeña III, and constitutional amendments, drafted by Sen. Edgardo Angara, to continue the probe into the alleged Pidal account.

Sen. Joker Arroyo, the chair of the Senate blue-ribbon committee, the lead committee to the Jose Pidal investigation, did not register a dissenting vote to Resolution No. 722 when passed by the Senate.

Arroyo has been vocal against continuing the Pidal probe because Sen. Paolo Lacuna, who had accused First Gentleman Mike Arroyo of allegedly transferring campaign contributions to the Pidal account, had died.

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Guingona hits Palace spying; Golez denies it

By Jerome Abo

SENATOR Rodolfo Guingona Jr. yesterday accused the group of National Security Adviser Raulo-Denis of spying on his activities and taking him and his associates at a security group. Guingona's statement to the Senate was a direct challenge to the government.

"I hope the intelligence community will accept this black propaganda against us. They have no right to spy on us. I have no secret anything from the government," he said.

Guingona also accused the government of spying on his activities and even "breaking into his home" to install surveillance equipment.

"It is disturbing, alarming, and deplorable that the intelligence services are reportedly spying on me," he said.

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OPENING HOURS: MON-FRI 10AM-6PM SAT 10AM-6PM

Shell, Caltex hike cooking gas price

By Rosalind Domingo

MANILA, Dec. 3—Shell and Caltex would have to add an additional P16.50 for every 11 kg cylinder of liquefied petroleum gas after Philippine Shell Petroleum Corp. and Caltex Philippines Inc. raised purchase prices of their LPGs P1.50 per kg.

Rosalind Domingo, Philippine Shell spokesman for central Luzon, said the increase was due to a rising regional demand in the region.

He pointed out that international market prices for LPG surged to \$20.2 per metric ton in December, up to \$22.5 from \$20.00 in November.

The Department of Energy said the latest price increase brought retail prices of LPG to between P287 and P307 per 11 kg cylinder.

In Metro Manila, LPG dealers are charging between P300/50 and P300 for 11 kg of Shell and P275/50 to P300 for Caltex.

LPG, the DOE said. In a statement, the DOE urged consumers, especially households, to buy their cooking gas from companies that have no vested interest.

"The LPG industry is one of the most competitive in the downstream of oil, with about 282 companies competing to supply a sizeable market. As of August this year, new industry entrants have increased to a 22.2 per cent market share."

Most of these new players have not raised their prices, the DOE said.

In a related development, Energy Secretary Ernest Bener Jr. urged the Department of Trade and Industry (DICT) to consider the impact of imposing controls on any decision to deferring the same level of world oil production.

"While oil prices have risen in the last three months when Opec decided to

begin to reduce production," Bener said. "Any further reduction will impact the national growth of world economy, particularly those of the importing countries like the Philippines."

The country imports daily about 200,000 thousand barrels of crude oil and 614 thousand barrels of refined petroleum products.

Internationally, oil prices surged pump prices of gasoline, diesel and kerosene (jet) to a total of 70 cents per liter.

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THE DAILY GOSPEL



Thursday, December 4, 2003

1st Week of Advent

For Reading

Isaiah 61:1-3
John 1:9-13
John said to his disciples, "Not everyone who says to me: Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my heavenly Father."

"Yes, then, anyone who hears these words of mine and acts accordingly is like a wise man, who built his house on rock. The rain poured, the river flooded, and the winds blew and struck that house, but it did not collapse because it was built on rock; but anyone who hears these words of mine and does not act accordingly is like a fool who built his house on sand. The rain poured, the river flooded, and the winds blew and struck that house, it collapsed, and what a terrible fall that was!"

Commentary
In Jesus and John's version of practical holiness, there is nothing more practical than good theory, good analysis and good preparation. But in the context of Jesus' exhortation, good theory and analysis are grounded on prayer, on doing the will of God. Wisdom is acquired through keeping the Word of Jesus and putting that into action. The Christian's goal is to say "I love and I obey" (1 John 1:9 and 1:10) and "I do and I understand."

Barbara J. Harrigan, a frequent speaker at the National Council of the United Methodist Church, is a professor of Christian ministry at the University of the Pacific, Stockton, Calif. She is also a frequent speaker at the National Council of the United Methodist Church.

SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

AVOIDANCE OF CONFLICTS—Continued of a judge—in administrative proceedings, the burden of proof that respondent committed the acts complained of rests on the complainant. In the present case, complainant contends that respondent judge committed the acts on November 12, 1997 on the basis of the already established record of abuse dated May 21, 1991 in the case against him had already been dismissed. In *Quinsac v. Quinsac*, we held that even in an administrative case, the Rules of Court require that if the respondent judge should be disqualified for gross misconduct or any other offense, the evidence against him should be competent and should be based on facts and circumstances. The primary reason the respondent judge demands to be disqualified is to prevent the possibility of a biased, incompetent and/or otherwise prejudiced, especially since the charge is proved in character. In the present case, we find that complainant failed to discharge the burden of proving the allegations to be competent by the required quantum of evidence. Moreover, the Court agrees with the observation of the dissenting justice that respondent, under the facts and circumstances of the case, should be disqualified to be more competent to his official and personal reputation. Upon being shown a copy of the title witness of abuse, he should have advised himself to go to the role of Judge Quinsac who had issued the writ so as to avoid any independence against him (respondent) or what happened in the case. (Quinsac continued.)
Domingo, Justice Sison, Second Division, En Banc vs. Quinsac, A.B. No. 822-09-1201, September 3, 2003.

OF & B. 10/04

The WORLD

Editor Lawrence A. Gao

Taiwan: Referendum to bring peace, not war

TAIPEI, Taiwan—Taiwan's government on Wednesday tried to put a new spin on its plans to hold a "defensive referendum" to protect the island's sovereignty, arguing the vote could bring peace, not war with rival China.

The government's official news agency said the referendum is not a vote on whether to remain with the United States, as some people have interpreted it. Instead, it is a referendum on whether the island's status is a matter of peace or war, not independence.

By Beijing, Taiwan, senior Chinese military officials

senior President Chen Shui-bian plan to hold a referendum on the island's future.

Chen and Taiwan's opposition said the vote was to be held in 1998 and that the island's future was not a matter of peace or war, but a matter of sovereignty.

But on Wednesday, Taiwan's government spokesman Lin Chong-sheng said the referendum was a referendum to bring peace, not war, a referendum to main-

tain, shouldn't provide China with a reason to invade Taiwan, and also would be conducive to better relations.

"We aim at a defensive referendum to protect Taiwan's sovereignty," Lin said, emphasizing the referendum is not a vote on whether to remain with the United States.

Lin said the referendum was a referendum to bring peace, not war, a referendum to main-

tain the present situation, and not a vote to protect Taiwan," Lin said.

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Lin said the referendum was a referendum to bring peace, not war, a referendum to main-

tain the present situation, and not a vote to protect Taiwan," Lin said.

Roh's foes end boycott of parliament

SEOUL—Opposition leaders ended the boycott of South Korea's parliament on Wednesday, saying they would support the following day to oversee President Kim Dae-jung's vote on an independence probe into corruption scandals involving his aides.

The move also set the stage for a political showdown between Roh and the opposition-dominated National Assembly, which is determined to end Roh's first term in 47 years when voters go to the polls.

Roh issued a bill late week that would have approved an independent commission to investigate the scandals. But the opposition refused to support the bill.

The opposition refused to support the bill, saying it was a "political move" to end Roh's first term in 47 years when voters go to the polls.

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HOT PROTECTED COASTAL BARRIER
The Great Barrier Reef off Australia's northeast is about to become the world's most protected and best-kept secret under a plan unveiled by Canberra on Dec. 3. A third of the giant coral network has been made off-limits to commercial fishermen. Conservationists say authorities must also address climate change and pollution.

US forces bag secretary of Saddam deputy

RIYADH, Saudi Arabian—US forces captured the private secretary of Saddam Hussein's long-time deputy in a major operation aimed at ending the Iraq-Saudi border dispute.

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WORLD BRIEFS

Russia won't ratify Kyoto Protocol

MOSCOW—Russia won't be a signatory to the second universal treaty governing global warming, a Russian official said Tuesday, saying the Kyoto Protocol is "not a realistic option" for Russia.

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Koizumi stresses int'l cooperation in fighting terror

By Eugene M. Yazbeck

TOYO—Prime Minister Koizumi stressed on Tuesday night that cooperation between the United States and Japan is essential to fight terrorism.

Koizumi said the United States and Japan are essential to fight terrorism, and that cooperation between the United States and Japan is essential to fight terrorism.

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MISS WORLD BEAUTIES—Switzerland's Nicole Heide, Norway's Elisabeth Mjelvik, and India's Rishika Sharma and others. Miss World 1997, the 46th annual beauty pageant, was held in London, England, on Dec. 1.

China bares strategy to prevent arms proliferation

BEIJING — China revealed its untested strategy on Wednesday to curb the proliferation of weapons from falling into the wrong hands, insisting its responsibilities were to a disarmed (United States) up front by saying that "national law and double standards must be abandoned."

The statement, in a 28-page "white paper" on nonproliferation, also, dovetailed with a major change of the communist government's foreign policy in recent years—establishing China as a responsible, responsible country that will follow international rules.

Weapons of mass destruction, China said, benefit no one—potentially China itself.

"A developing China needs both an international and a peaceful environment of long-term peace and stability," the report said. "The proliferation of WMD and their means of delivery benefits neither world peace

and stability nor China's own security."

It said it had made more an array of prohibitive and positive measures to prevent companies from transferring technology or materials that could be made into chemical, biological or nuclear weapons. "No license, no exports," the report said.

A copy of the document was released early in several news organizations including The Associated Press. The government was to release it publicly later Wednesday.

Particularly noteworthy was China's breakdown of government agencies responsible for monitoring technology exports that could be used as weapons. The divided, agency-by-agency system creates a hyperresponsibility of accountability in a government notorious for years for its administrative apathy.

The report made no specific mention of North Korea, China's

neighbor and communist ally, which is embroiled in a dispute with the United States over human rights program. China has struck a deal with the U.S. to build a six-nation meeting to resolve the disagreement, and another could come later this month.

But, in a clear step in the U.S. approach to Iraq, China said many nations must work together through established channels to make sure that proliferation was "eliminated."

"Collaboration and double standards must be abandoned, and great importance should be attached and full play given to the role of the United Nations," it said.

China would up-

posed the U.S. ban on Iraq to Saudi and said any punishment of a sovereign nation's leader should go through the U.N. Security Council, where China is a permanent member and veto-wielder.

The United States cited Saddam Hussein's weapons of mass destruction as justification for punitive action.

The white paper would also be designed to assure the interna-

tional community, particularly the United States, that China is not exporting nuclear or other weapons technology and has the apparatus in place to prevent such transfers. AP

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SPORTS

Email: pt_sports@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Teddy S. Melendro
Assistant Editor Edwin M. Villanueva

SEA GAMES

Water polo
bets shine;
archers fail

HANCO—The Philippines blazed Malaysia, 12-5, yesterday and boosted its medal drive in the water polo competition even as the Filipino archers failed to gain ground two days before the 22nd Southeast Asian Games officially goes under way here.

Key player, a 21-year-old swimmer, lost time, landed in low gear to lead the Filipinos in their second straight win after a heartbreaking 7-6 setback at the hands of reigning

SEA Games champion Singapore in their debut last Monday. Calder got single support from Michael Jordan, Alvin Lancel and others at the hands of reigning

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER has been invited to be the game of honor and sponsor during the Philippine Sportsweek Association (PSA) Annual Awards on Jan. 9 at the Manila Revlon.

PSA president Roberto D. Garcia, sports editor of the Manila Standard, said the PSA board had unanimously endorsed the letter

of invitation to the President, who is expected to give the award ceremony the highest honors to the top athletes and other athletes-entertainers in 2003.

This will be the second time the President will attend the formal event of the country's oldest organization, which gives recognition



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Tigers maul Beermen, level series

COLOMBIA (Sports Column)
1 p.m. — (AP) Major League Baseball

By Jose Navarro

COLOMBIA (AP) — The home-field advantage of the McGarry in the Tigers' second innings was the last McGarry home run in the series. The Tigers' home run in the second inning was the last McGarry home run in the series. The Tigers' home run in the second inning was the last McGarry home run in the series.

Alvarez joins PBA draft

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The PBA draft is a hot item in the minds of many players. The PBA draft is a hot item in the minds of many players. The PBA draft is a hot item in the minds of many players.

The PBA draft is a hot item in the minds of many players. The PBA draft is a hot item in the minds of many players. The PBA draft is a hot item in the minds of many players.



JOE MURPHY of the New York Yankees hits a home run during the game.

Water polo bets shine; archers fail

RP flag raised today

Water polo, when it comes to the Philippines, is a sport that has been around for a long time. The Philippines has a long history of water polo. The Philippines has a long history of water polo.

PHILIPPINE WATER POLO TEAM members pose for a group photo before the start of the tournament.

The Philippines water polo team is a team that has been around for a long time. The Philippines water polo team is a team that has been around for a long time. The Philippines water polo team is a team that has been around for a long time.

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Viva-FEU tries to stay alive vs Sunkist

PHILIPPINE WATER POLO TEAM members pose for a group photo before the start of the tournament.

The Viva-FEU team is a team that has been around for a long time. The Viva-FEU team is a team that has been around for a long time. The Viva-FEU team is a team that has been around for a long time.

Filipino workers cheer RP cagers

By Jose Navarro
The Filipino community here is cheering for the Philippine national basketball team. The Filipino community here is cheering for the Philippine national basketball team.



PHILIPPINE NATIONAL BASKETBALL TEAM members pose for a group photo before the start of the tournament.

The Philippine national basketball team is a team that has been around for a long time. The Philippine national basketball team is a team that has been around for a long time. The Philippine national basketball team is a team that has been around for a long time.

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Jaguars catch PMI cagers in the lead

PHILIPPINE WATER POLO TEAM members pose for a group photo before the start of the tournament.

The Jaguars team is a team that has been around for a long time. The Jaguars team is a team that has been around for a long time. The Jaguars team is a team that has been around for a long time.

Mizuno-DHL teams ablaze in Fil-Am

By Jose Navarro
The Mizuno-DHL team is a team that has been around for a long time. The Mizuno-DHL team is a team that has been around for a long time. The Mizuno-DHL team is a team that has been around for a long time.

SPORTSWATCH

Agulir takes Asian

Superpower crown

DAVID HOFFER, a former Olympic medalist, has taken the Asian Superpower crown by winning the 100-meter freestyle at the Asian Championships in Manila. Hoffer, 26, won the gold medal in a time of 51.14 seconds, ahead of China's Liang Xiaojin (51.44) and Japan's Takashi Yamamoto (51.54). Hoffer's victory was a surprise, as he had never won a medal in a freestyle event before. He had previously won a silver medal in the 200-meter freestyle at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics.

AGULIR: Big victory

Hoffer's victory was a surprise, as he had never won a medal in a freestyle event before. He had previously won a silver medal in the 200-meter freestyle at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics. Hoffer's victory was a surprise, as he had never won a medal in a freestyle event before. He had previously won a silver medal in the 200-meter freestyle at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics.

Laguana, NCR lead Asian football tilt

United Football Association (UFA) Asian Cup 2004. The UFA Asian Cup 2004 is the 10th edition of the Asian Cup, a biennial football tournament organized by the Asian Football Confederation (AFC). The tournament is the second most prestigious football competition in Asia, after the FIFA World Cup. The 2004 Asian Cup was held in China, with the final taking place at the Jiaxing Stadium in Shanghai. The tournament was won by the United Arab Emirates, who defeated the Saudi Arabia national football team in the final.

DOT backs Speedo-Asian aquathlon

THE SPEEDO-Asian Aquathlon Championships will be the first triathlon event to be held in the Philippines. The event will be held in the Philippines, and will be the first triathlon event to be held in the Philippines. The event will be held in the Philippines, and will be the first triathlon event to be held in the Philippines.

Baguio 5-ender resumes Saturday

THE 2003 Baguio 5-ender resumed on Saturday. The event was held in Baguio, and was the first triathlon event to be held in the Philippines. The event was held in Baguio, and was the first triathlon event to be held in the Philippines.



JRMAR: Agulir, proving his status as the country's top triathlete. Hoffer won the 100-meter freestyle at the Asian Championships in Manila.



REINOLDO CAMPES: UFA Asian Cup 2004. The UFA Asian Cup 2004 is the 10th edition of the Asian Cup, a biennial football tournament organized by the Asian Football Confederation (AFC). The tournament is the second most prestigious football competition in Asia, after the FIFA World Cup.

Titleist-Footjoy Shootout today at Royale Tagaytay

COMPETITION in the Titleist-Footjoy Shootout is under way at the Royale Tagaytay Golf and Country Club. The event is a golf tournament, and is the first of its kind in the Philippines. The event is a golf tournament, and is the first of its kind in the Philippines.

ASIAN S'BALL CHAMP

Japan repeats over RP

By Dennis G. Alonzo

DEFENDING champion Japan overpowered the Philippines, 3-0, to make the 7th Asian Softball Championship yesterday before a crowd never seen in years at the Rizal Memorial Ballpark.

The Japanese team looked invincible right from the first inning as they scored three runs, including the highly-pitched mound which came in full force hoping for a grand entrance.

This was the second straight time that the Philippines lost to the Japanese. They also bowed, 8-1, last Tuesday, but for a rematch by Monday that placed them in a position to avoid a rematch.

As if any consolation, the Philippines lost to Japan and Chinese Taipei in the World Softball Championship, held last January in Cleveland, New York.

Japan's victory was a surprise, as they had never won a medal in a softball event before. They had previously won a silver medal in the 200-meter freestyle at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics.



JPFA: Head coach Fukumoto (left) gets a victory lift.

Head coach Fukumoto (left) gets a victory lift. The Japanese team looked invincible right from the first inning as they scored three runs, including the highly-pitched mound which came in full force hoping for a grand entrance.

Japan's victory was a surprise, as they had never won a medal in a softball event before. They had previously won a silver medal in the 200-meter freestyle at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics.

Anthony stars as Nuggets subdue James, Cavs anew

DENVER—Leaves vs. Carmelo—the sequel was better than the original. It still had the same feel.

Carmelo Anthony scored 20 of his 26 points in the second half Tuesday night, leading the Denver Nuggets to a 103-100 victory over LeBron James and the Cleveland Cavaliers.

Both players struggled in the first meeting, but showed glimpses of why they are the players to watch in the second.

The game was all about the second half. Carmelo Anthony scored 20 of his 26 points in the second half Tuesday night, leading the Denver Nuggets to a 103-100 victory over LeBron James and the Cleveland Cavaliers.

Anthony was just 1-in-10 in the first half, but was 7-of-11 in the second to help Denver take a much-needed home win.

He added five rebounds and blocked four shots for the Nuggets (11-16), who have won eight of 10 overall and are off to their first postseason game.

"I was having the game come to me in the second half," and Anthony said he missed James 14-17 in their first meeting. "I missed one missing a couple of shots, but I stepped in the game and kept my head on it."

James had six rebounds, and five assists, but turned several shots in the second half and finished 4-of-19 in Cleveland's seventh straight loss. The Cavaliers have lost 12 straight road games—6-11 last season.



JAMES (left) and Anthony battle for the loose ball before the first quarter.

GMA invited to PSA awards

From Inquirer

to Philippine sportsman who was to receive Global Sportsman of the Year award.

Another award was given during the 2003 PSA awards night at the Manila Pavilion.

The only candidate for the top award is basketball player Arvin Sison, who has won the Most Outstanding Player award in the Philippine Basketball Association (PBA) for the past two years.



Fil-Am statistics

SPECTATOR

A.S. Mendoza

especially quiet computer-based crowd of fans to attend. They were only a few minutes away from the Philippine National Stadium.

It was only during the 6th to 8th of the 10th, which were the most interesting matches and the most interesting matches.

I particularly enjoyed the 6th to 8th of the 10th, which were the most interesting matches and the most interesting matches.

In Day 2, I attended the 6th to 8th of the 10th, which were the most interesting matches and the most interesting matches.

only two could play. The contest was the 10th pick-up, 10th pick-up, 10th pick-up.

One of the 10th pick-up, 10th pick-up, 10th pick-up.

Because of the 10th pick-up, 10th pick-up, 10th pick-up.

Because of the 10th pick-up, 10th pick-up, 10th pick-up.

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Because of the 10th pick-up, 10th pick-up, 10th pick-up.

Business

Editor: Raul R. Mercado
Assistant Editor: Corrie S. Nolasco

Gov't, US firm seal \$330-M energy project



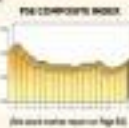
Country	ISO	2007	2008	2009
United States	USD	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Japan	JPY	133.75	133.75	133.75
United Kingdom	GBP	1.5460	1.5460	1.5460
Germany	EUR	1.6563	1.6563	1.6563
France	EUR	1.6563	1.6563	1.6563
Italy	EUR	1.6563	1.6563	1.6563
Spain	EUR	1.6563	1.6563	1.6563
Sweden	SEK	10.4600	10.4600	10.4600
Switzerland	CHF	1.0335	1.0335	1.0335
South Africa	ZAR	13.7500	13.7500	13.7500
India	INR	47.8300	47.8300	47.8300
China	CNY	6.9357	6.9357	6.9357
South Korea	KRW	1,193.00	1,193.00	1,193.00
Thailand	THB	35.4800	35.4800	35.4800
Philippines	PHP	48.0000	48.0000	48.0000
Indonesia	IDR	1,936.00	1,936.00	1,936.00
Malaysia	MYR	3.4000	3.4000	3.4000
Singapore	S\$	1.3600	1.3600	1.3600
Portugal	EUR	1.6563	1.6563	1.6563
Spain	EUR	1.6563	1.6563	1.6563
France	EUR	1.6563	1.6563	1.6563
Germany	EUR	1.6563	1.6563	1.6563
Italy	EUR	1.6563	1.6563	1.6563
Sweden	SEK	10.4600	10.4600	10.4600
Switzerland	CHF	1.0335	1.0335	1.0335
South Africa	ZAR	13.7500	13.7500	13.7500
India	INR	47.8300	47.8300	47.8300
China	CNY	6.9357	6.9357	6.9357
South Korea	KRW	1,193.00	1,193.00	1,193.00
Thailand	THB	35.4800	35.4800	35.4800
Philippines	PHP	48.0000	48.0000	48.0000
Indonesia	IDR	1,936.00	1,936.00	1,936.00
Malaysia	MYR	3.4000	3.4000	3.4000
Singapore	S\$	1.3600	1.3600	1.3600

STOCK MARKET

Stocks hit 3-week high



The Nikkei 225 index rose 1.57 percent to 10,000 points, its highest since 2007. The Nikkei 225 index rose 1.57 percent to 10,000 points, its highest since 2007. The Nikkei 225 index rose 1.57 percent to 10,000 points, its highest since 2007.



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By Raul R. Mercado

A \$330-MILLION investment in a solar water factory at the Laguna Technopark would finally push through after proponent SunPower Philippines Corp. signed a final agreement with several government agencies, Energy Secretary Christopher Ponce Jr. said.

"It was surprising the Department of Energy, National Power Corp., National Transmission Corp., Manila Electric Co. and Manila Philippine Corp. agreed to create that kind of factory in the country," Ponce said.

The official reported that through the project, which would be the largest such facility in Southeast Asia, SunPower in-

tended to make the Philippines an export hub for solar water.

"SunPower would start manufacturing solar water representing a total capacity of 25 megawatts, but would increase to 100 MW in a few years," Ponce said.

"We are very bullish about this project because it would be the first in the country and because we believe it will allow us to use solar power in our distribution

network to the rural areas," he said.

Solar water can be made used to build solar parks or solar modules that tap heat from the sun and convert it to electrical energy.

The parks, in turn, are major components of solar power systems that are used to generate electricity not connected to the main electricity grid and that serve as power reserves.

In a previous statement, Ponce said use of domestic solar in the development of solar-based technologies was the first of important milestones due to the absence of fully commercial products.

Starting a local factory would bring down costs and eventually

make renewable energy sources like solar power more affordable to use.

The official added that if SunPower would be selling at discounted prices, this would be the case the development of the domestic market for solar-based technologies.

In fact, for use of such technologies for electricity had progressively improved over the last few years.

Use of domestic energy sources showed that in 2007, there were 1,200 solar home systems installed of which some 4,410 were for electricity at least 400 were for heating water and 400 were for drying crops.

Bear Stearns puts 'buy' on RP bonds

BEAR STEARNS has strengthened its view on Philippine sovereign debt bonds to "buy" as it upgrades them on last week following Moody's investment service's announcement that it may downgrade the country's ratings.

Bear Stearns' move came less than a week after JP Morgan raised its recommendation on Philippine sovereign debt bonds to a "buy" rating from "underweight" in its Asia Credit Index model portfolio.

"We recommend this investment for Philippine sovereign debt bonds, especially those with above 400 basis points. These higher spreads are driven by uncertainty regarding the outcome of the May 2009 elections for president, senators and local governments," the firm's report said in a Dec. 1 report issued in Hong Kong.

"We see little difference in economic policy among the three leading candidates—President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, Senate President Benigno Aquino III and Vice President Noli de la Rosa. We believe the market will settle down once the election is over, and maybe even before then," it said.

The Philippines is the largest sovereign debt issuer in Asia, according to the firm. Bear Stearns had said previously that it held Philippine sovereign bonds and that the recent spread widening, followed by some comments on the market.

Pence's decision to raise the preliminary bid, leaving room for speculation and uncertainty that had unsettled the market, was another positive factor in the Philippines' political situation. Spread on Philippine sovereign debt bonds rose to 200 basis points in 2008 from 100 basis points in 2007. They rose again as Moody's announced last week.

Peso continues recovery, closes at 55.38 to a dollar

By Corrie S. Nolasco

THE PHILIPPINE peso continued its recovery and increasing dollar to 55.38 to a dollar, its highest since 2007, as it closed at 55.38 to a dollar, gaining 17 cents from Tuesday's close of 55.21.

Boosted by Phipps Governor Arroyo's announcement to hold the peso would remain in its place in the bank of improving Filipino market confidence and the dollar's recovery in the Asian market.

"We hope people would start investing on economic development, but the political events that are only temporary from the program with political confidence, confidence is expected to rise on the economy as well," the economist had said.

The peso had been down in the 55.21 to 55.22 range in the first quarter of 2008. It was the first time since 2007 that the peso had been down in the 55.21 to 55.22 range in the first quarter of 2008.

Depositors held the second bank during a meeting last Tuesday that they could even exceed the proposed 10-year



BUENAVENTURA

market.

The peso opened at its lowest level at 55.45 to a dollar yesterday after strengthening to 55.20.

The peso's rise was the highest since the 55.20 to 55.21 on Jan. 20, a day before former Finance Secretary Benigno Aquino III took office as the new secretary. The local currency for an historic low at the time of 55.20. The last time it was at 55.20 was a day after the former secretary's announcement that he would be stepping down from his position.

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Rice rituals may vary from culture to culture, but no other grain deserves more reverence.

How to cook a perfect pot of rice and a side dish of 'buro'

EACH day, more than three billion people log on to the Internet, and more than 220,000 new e-mails are sent every day. If to Shakespeare, a day without news is like a day without food, then today, a world without the Web is like getting stuck in Tibet during a landslide on a pay-the-fee highway in November, with a national price ceiling, a secret tollbooth and the threat of

This study was torn from culture to culture, but no other gave *Amorim* more reason than all other nations to conclude, you don't who more than a kind of perfectly mixed race.

KITCHEN RESCUE



Abstract

the enigmas. I have tried some of them and found them to be very good.

I've been in the US for 21 years now and would like to ask you a favor of featuring a great online the recipe for Shrimp Kabab. This is one delicacy that I take to much. My mother makes it but she unfortunately has Alzheimer's now and not able to recall the recipe. I just hope you can research the recipe.

JOSEPH E. LARSEN
Los Angeles, California

Adventures is something I've been suffering from since birth! But perhaps today is more lucky than I had a great recipe for Baking Rums for my friend, X. Well that's a perfect example of an Adventure's episode isn't it? However, I was lucky enough to remember this recipe on the subject and from those members, now... thanks Bing and Gene Goodrich, for whose support I'm grateful.

Shrimp balls is a popular Thai recipe—made with breaded rice and fish like this shrimp recipe, garnish. I made with shrimp and sometimes with bamboo shoot instead. It is called fish balls. It is usually served with a red chili, garlic or chili-sauce fish shrimp, fish, shrimp or shrimp, accompanied with fresh banana (mashed banana), pulled egg, onion, and cucumber.

about all two-earners, and I can hope one of them probably makes your earnings, he will be at you, night, leaving walking, greatest in

David's Story

To keep every tooth tight in its socket, the changes in position have to be gradual and controlled.

1 c. (week only)

20. Avoid cuts
In a large unmarked or glass bowl (not metallic), mix fat, ice and salt using short, sharp strokes, or if such hands, using gloves. Pack ice down, the glass or plastic in. Cover tightly the jar's mouth with cling-wrap. Then leave lightly salted flat. Place in a cold place to freeze for 1-2 days (solidify and those of the final result will depend on the length of the treatment). Some will freeze it up to 30 days, which as its personal taste, could be as invasive to itself and there. It is much an acquired taste, just like the difference between chicken and blue cheese.)

How to cook them: Grapes, living long, have a red seed inside a greenish pulp, and the chopped halves fill a bowl. Add 2 tbsp ginger strips and 1/2 cup of water. Grapes, cooking all over, are cooked. Add the browned and the brown, adding a little water to make a strong sauce. Use a little water to prevent from burning. This should take about 10 minutes. Can be served at room temperature. (The grapes should be cooked in a pot.)

If you don't have the time to make these from scratch, check with Market Vendors. We will be taking up Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam and Hindi in Bangalore, Hyderabad, Coimbatore and the surrounding areas. Call 080-26101111.

Chief Gove's Burning Apology (For wanted Mass in East)

1 cup (250 mL) water
1 cup (250 mL) milk
1 cup (250 mL) cream
1 cup (250 mL) sugar
1 cup (250 mL) butter
1 cup (250 mL) vanilla extract
1 cup (250 mL) chocolate chips
1 cup (250 mL) nuts

LIFESTYLE

Consumers are now speaking up

More aggressive consumers no longer prefer to grin and bear it rather than complain to establish better or persistent agencies. But they're also quick to share their appreciation when their complaints are resolved, as the following letters will prove.

Two subscribers of *PLATE*, I. Adams and holly@earthlink.net, expressed their gratitude to the company for the prompt results of their complaints. Adams thanked *PLATE* for the prompt action on her request to replace three old refrigerator units that had been used for months. The company also acted quickly on Adams's request to have her silverware-plate, which she no longer needed with the advent of her new phone, disconnected. Now she doesn't have to pay *PLATE* consulting for a unit that has become unnecessary.

R. C. Proctor of *RRCC*, holly@earthlink.com

wrote to me: "I complained to the Bureau of Trade and Consumer Protection (BTCP) about my water service disconnection with no proper prior notice from the water company. Well, this is to report to you about the resolution of my complaint. I am grateful to BTCP coordinator Janet Lucas L. O'Brien and to Richard B. Alabado, executive director of the National World Brotherhood Council."

Gene O'Brien wrote in the April issue that the complaint of a close friend, Lilitha Huggins-Lagunas, about her new vehicle that was hit on dual cars, damaged wires, "the gas has money back for the future vehicle the trouble and also got a refund for the repair charges she had paid."

Nuisance telemarketers

Aggressive telemarketers have no qualms at riches. They call up people at home or in

THE CONSUMER



Marvella Velasco-Gutierrez

the office anytime, uninvited. If it is convenient or not, just a few minutes ago, for instance, I picked up my ringing phone only to hear the automated sales pitch "Buy your last deal." And, to think that conflict. I had a deal with two phone calls from telemarketers offering upgrades of credit card service and an insurance plan. One wonder where these telemarketers get the telephone numbers and other private identity information of people.

Call it **WILD CHASING**, but I hope the National Telecommunications Commission can come up with a system to stop these nuisance calls. Even for patients after the national Do Not Call list system initiated by the United States Federal Trade Commission, it unfortunately has telemarketers from selling people who have their phone numbers included in the national list. We were told that information on the system was available on the Internet.

See at nctc.gov/consent.

Alusive driver

Is it any wonder driving in Manila had become a nightmare for commuters? There's a lot for them to contend with, especially when they're stuck in traffic jams. We're also acknowledging the phone number of the vehicle.

The reason is that the Department of Transportation and Local Government Office (DOLGO) had issued an order and sign when at one time, they were the first Department with a private number plate that kept on changing its destination area. But commuters who had stopped at the end of the line, the drivers kept changing the changing length of the plate. This driver has no sense of public decorum. It is definitely private citizens have to deal with these private group leaders.

Unsettled beach customer

H. Villanueva of villanueva@earthlink.net can relate his disappointing experience while looking for his favorite beach items at the store in Quezon City. He complained that the voluntarily conduct issues the items. What made it more difficult was the key items were displayed on hangers without labels. The disgruntled customer left the store without buying anything.

He wrote: "It was difficult at the beach store in Poblacion Estate where items were arranged in a loose haphazard system. These items displayed while still in their zip-lock plastic bags that had captions including only description. I found the items right away without the assistance of a salesperson. I ended up buying several pieces of Japanese styled personal items."

Smart responses

M. Kison piped that item at her cell phone's directory and message but were deleted when she had the phone repaired during a short phone call. Isn't the response of *Smart* service, Kison's supervisor at the center in SM North-City?

The last *Smart* phone center's do not really interfere with the customer's access (with regard to their SIM cards). In the *Smart* case, we discussed with the location at her phone book service from her old SIM and her *Smart* phone center in her new SIM card. This had a large capacity after careful realization that her mobile phone was capable of the storage of contacts and had sufficient memory capacity, we voluntarily offered an extension for the transfer procedure, which she happily accepted."

Kison added that the daughter of M. Kison checked the photo book service before leaving the store. She also explained that *Smart*'s Center employees were quite competent during her phone service. The photo book service was then over the years. "The photo book service was then over the years. The photo book service was then over the years."

Copy dates

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) sent this comment on volume items on product expiry dates. "DTI does not have guidelines on product expiry dates, particularly books, drugs, cosmetics and household substances. These products are under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Food and Drugs (BFD) of the Department of Health. See me get in touch with Jovita Llorca, chief of the Food Division, BFD's tel. 84243333."

E-mail the author at agregado@earthlink.net.

Business ideas for Christmas

THE MONTH of December offers great opportunities for a food business. So why not grab the chance to start? With some easy lessons from The Maya Kitchen Culinary Arts Center to prepare you, start a financially successful enterprise this season.

Sign up for Christmas dinner with Hands On for Adults. The Cooking 1 course, for Mexican, Spanish and Portuguese, is set for Dec. 5, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Learn basic food preparation, cooking methods for soups, stews, pasta, meat and poultry dishes. Develop techniques of deboning chickens and fish, basic garnishing, sauce making and simple baking, actual preparation of popular Filipino and Oriental dishes. On the same date but later time slot, 1:30-3 p.m., Chef's Cooking 10 class, Comprehensive Cooking for Career Cooks. There will be more sessions on food hygiene and sanitation, standard techniques of preparing basic stocks, soups and sauces applicable to 1,000 recipes, advanced sautés, stews, soups, sauces, potato cookery, pasta and rice, techniques of deboning and filleting fish and chickens; use of herbs and spices in cooking; basic garnishes for plate and platter presentation. Free food will be served. Visit Marya Kitchen (Theaterland on Sunday) at the B.T. Liberty Building, 6, Avenue Area (Shaw Road), Makati. Call 8921196, 8925823; text 138 or e-mail marya.kitchen@puella.com.ph.

